

MONTANA ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

May 2002

UNEMPLOYMENT BY COUNTY

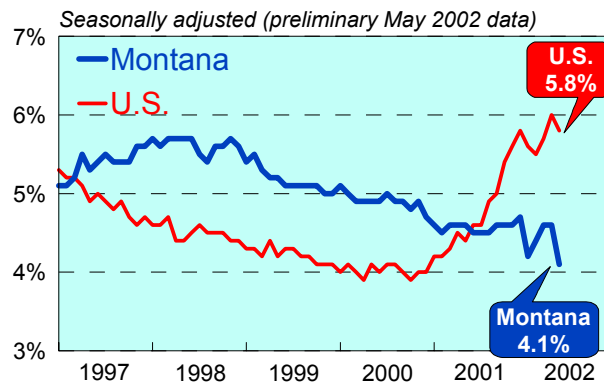
Not seasonally adjusted

	May 2001	May 2002*
UNITED STATES	4.1%	5.5%
MONTANA	4.1%	3.7%
Cascade **	3.8%	3.4%
Missoula **	3.2%	2.9%
Yellowstone **	2.9%	2.9%
Beaverhead	3.2%	2.6%
Big Horn	15.0%	12.5%
Blaine	4.5%	4.1%
Broadwater	3.1%	3.0%
Carbon	3.9%	3.2%
Carter	2.2%	2.0%
Chouteau	2.5%	2.4%
Custer	2.7%	2.1%
Daniels	3.2%	2.1%
Dawson	2.0%	1.8%
Deer Lodge	5.6%	5.2%
Fallon	1.9%	3.1%
Fergus	5.2%	2.9%
Flathead	5.5%	4.7%
Gallatin	2.8%	2.5%
Garfield	1.6%	1.9%
Glacier	10.1%	8.4%
Golden Valley	4.0%	2.2%
Granite	8.8%	6.2%
Hill	3.5%	2.9%
Jefferson	3.5%	3.2%
Judith Basin	2.7%	2.9%
Lake	10.9%	6.7%
Lewis & Clark	3.8%	3.6%
Liberty	2.6%	2.7%
Lincoln	11.2%	10.7%
McCone	2.3%	0.9%
Madison	2.7%	3.0%
Meagher	7.3%	4.4%
Mineral	7.5%	6.7%
Musselshell	4.3%	5.7%
Park	3.8%	3.5%
Petroleum	3.0%	0.6%
Phillips	3.6%	2.8%
Pondera	3.3%	3.8%
Powder River	1.4%	1.6%
Powell	5.2%	5.8%
Prairie	3.2%	2.8%
Ravalli	3.8%	3.7%
Richland	5.3%	5.2%
Roosevelt	6.0%	6.0%
Rosebud	5.8%	4.3%
Sanders	7.8%	6.9%
Sheridan	2.0%	2.4%
Silver Bow	4.1%	4.0%
Stillwater	2.4%	2.8%
Sweet Grass	1.5%	2.5%
Teton	2.7%	2.6%
Toole	2.5%	2.5%
Treasure	2.5%	1.3%
Valley	2.7%	2.5%
Wheatland	2.4%	3.4%
Wibaux	1.6%	2.8%

*May 2002 rate preliminary
 ** Cascade=Great Falls MSA
 Missoula=Missoula MSA
 Yellowstone=Billings MSA

May 2002 HIGHLIGHTS

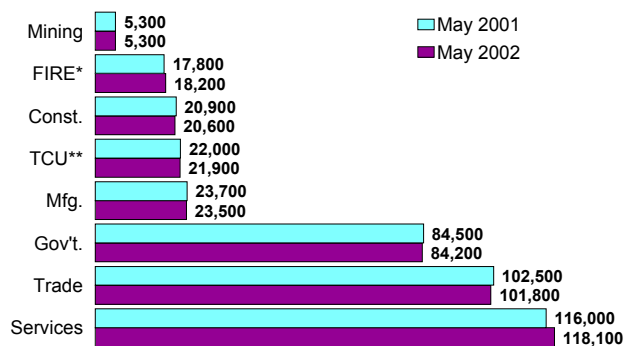
Unemployment



Montana's May unemployment rate of 4.1 percent was 1.7 percentage points below the national rate of 5.8 percent.

Nonag Payroll Employment

Montana Jobs (Seasonally Adjusted)



*Finance/Insurance/Real Estate **Transportation/Communications/Utilities

Montana's nonagricultural payroll employment was up about 900 jobs (0.3 percent) over the year.

- Showing job increases over the year were services (up about 2,100 jobs) and finance, insurance and real estate (up approximately 400 jobs).
- Showing some job decline when compared to May 2001 were trade (down about 700 jobs) and total government (down roughly 300 jobs).

Earnings

Average weekly earnings for Montana's private sector production workers were up 2.0 percent over the year in May, outpacing U.S. inflation of 1.2 percent.

2000 CENSUS

Montanans' ancestry

Recently released ancestry information from the 2000 Census shows a higher percentage of German, Irish, English and Norwegian ancestry in Montana than in the U.S. as a whole.

Ancestry	MT	US
German	27.0%	15.2%
Irish	14.9%	10.9%
English	12.7%	8.7%
Norwegian	10.6%	1.6%

For more Census information, visit the Montana Census and Economic Information Center website at <http://ceic.commerce.state.mt.us>.

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FIND LATEST WAGE RATES BY OCCUPATION AT:**<http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/oes/2000wage/>**

The latest informational wage rates for over 500 occupations have recently been posted on our website, where you can easily search for wages by occupations listed alphabetically by name and also alphabetically within occupational groups. You can also view a PDF version of the *Montana Information Wage Rates by Occupation for 2000* publication, which will be printed in July.

The wage rates have a 4th-quarter 2000 reference period and are based on information collected during 1999 and 2000 Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) wage surveys. Wage rates are included for the U.S., Montana, and Montana's three metropolitan statistical areas (Cascade, Missoula and Yellowstone).

Featured below is a sampling of median hourly wages (middle value where one-half of wages are above and one-half of the wages are below the median wage) for Montana.

<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Median Wage</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Median Wage</u>
Family & general practitioners	\$60.13	Licensed practical nurses	\$11.66
Chief executives	\$32.07	Truck drivers, light or delivery	\$9.36
Pharmacists	\$30.32	Receptionists & information clerks	\$8.33
Sales managers	\$23.08	Nursing aides, orderlies & attendants	\$7.85
Plumbers, pipefitters & steamfitters	\$22.74	Cooks, restaurant	\$7.78
Civil engineers	\$21.81	Janitors & cleaners	\$7.61
Computer programmers	\$21.34	Home health aides	\$7.58
Electricians	\$20.74	Landscaping & groundskeeping workers	\$7.54
Lawyers	\$20.14	Retail salespersons	\$7.17
Registered nurses	\$17.71	Security guards	\$7.07
Roofers	\$15.57	Cashiers	\$6.77
Accountants & auditors	\$15.55	Maids & housekeeping cleaners	\$6.65
Computer support specialists	\$15.01	Combined food prep & serving workers	\$6.51
Carpenters	\$13.45	Child care workers	\$6.51
Truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer	\$12.99	Waiters & waitresses	\$6.07

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